

Remarks

The indication that claims 19-42 and 61-85 include patentable subject matter is acknowledged with thanks. In reliance thereon, the rejected claims have been amended to include subject matter indicated to be allowable to place the application in condition for allowance.

Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 85 and claims 11-18 have been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claims 19-26. Claims 2-10 also have been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 85. Claims 19-26, 61-68, and 85 have been canceled. Claims 27-42 have been amended into conformance.

The undersigned discussed this amendment with Examiner Gary on November 13, 2007. As best understood at the time, Examiner Gary agreed to consider the amendment to claims 2-10. The undersigned does not see that the amendment raises any new issues requiring further consideration and/or search.

Claims 1-2 and 43-44 were rejected as anticipated by YAMATO 6,954,651 or by MEGGERS et al. 6,728,270. Claims 3-18 and 45-60 were rejected as unpatentable over MEGGERS et al. These claims have been amended to include allowable subject matter and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

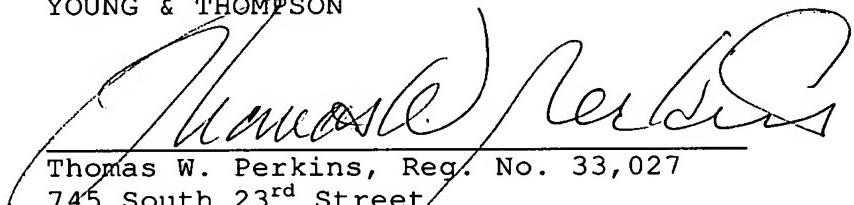
In view of the present amendment, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for

allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Thomas W. Perkins, Reg. No. 33,027
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

TWP/lk